

Additionally, she takes the time to inspire and mentor her colleagues, helping them to harness their own skills, knowledge, and passion to serve their community. Catherine is also the founder of the Davis Schools Foundation, which has helped every school in Davis and thousands of children over the years. She has also given her time and support to such organizations as 100 Women Who Care, the Yolo Crisis Nursery, and the Yolo County Food Bank. Catherine is a fierce advocate, caring friend, loving mother, and inspirational leader whose dedicated service to her community has changed countless lives in Yolo County.

Diana Fuentes-Michel is a dedicated advocate not only within the Yolo and Sacramento regions, but throughout the entire state of California. For years, Diana has applied her skills and expertise in higher education policy to ensure that migrant, low-income, and moderate-income students from the state of California can pursue a higher education. Diana has also been instrumental in ensuring that upwards of 50,000 undocumented students can attend college by ushering in California's Dream Act Application. Diana also contributed to the establishment of the bilingual career and college fair called Steps to College: Paseo de la Universidad, which was the first of its kind in Yolo and Sacramento counties. Diana's work as an establishing member and volunteer for the Chicano-Latino Youth Leadership Program has provided thousands of California's young Latinx with the opportunity to visit Sacramento, stay on college campuses, and participate in state government affairs. She has also volunteered her time with Cien Amigos where she helped to raise funds for the nonprofit that serves 300 students and helps administer the organization's yearly scholarship program. Diana is an inspirational leader whose dedicated service to her community has changed countless lives in our community and throughout the state of California.

I congratulate each of them and commend them for their work. I am inspired by them and firmly believe when women succeed, America succeeds.

**CELEBRATING THE INSTALLATION  
OF DR. MATTHEW GIORDANO AS  
THE FOURTH PRESIDENT OF  
VILLA MARIA COLLEGE**

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 12, 2019*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the installation of Dr. Matthew Giordano as the Fourth President of Villa Maria College on Friday, November 15, 2019.

Villa Maria College is a private, co-educational, Catholic college providing the support and resources needed to give students the opportunity to learn and grow with a culturally diverse population that lives its ideals of truth, charity, and unity.

Dr. Matthew Giordano, the first male, lay-person president in the college's history, assumed the role of interim president in July 2018 following the retirement of Sister Marcella Marie Garus, Villa's legendary forty-year leader. Since that time, the College launched three new academic programs including flexi-

ble business, game design and software development proactively responding to heightened employment opportunities in these growth industries. Scholarship eSports has also found a home at Villa Maria College.

This visionary leader is not only responding to the marketplace of today but ensuring the college's future growth as he and his team are creating a new strategic plan, introduced new models of governance and is developing strong connections between the Villa Maria family of students, faculty and staff.

Prior to his selection, Giordano served as vice president for academic affairs from 2012 to 2018. During that time, he played a pivotal role in planning and implementing the college's creative blueprint resulting in major enrollment growth and increased retention, launching new academic programs, including an honors program, and helping to secure grant funding in support of student success, including a \$1.8 million Title III grant.

Dr. Giordano brought his passion for teaching English and gift for student engagement to Villa in 2005 and became chairperson of the liberal arts department in 2009.

It is especially noteworthy that while he is working within the beautiful, stately walls of the Villa Campus, Dr. Giordano understands that the college is strengthened when the surrounding neighborhoods are strengthened. An anchor institution and community asset linking the borders of the city of Buffalo and the town of Cheektowaga, Villa's new president is committed to open dialogue with local leaders and elected officials to develop partnerships and initiate collaborative relationships in support of its students and neighbors.

Dr. Giordano has a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Philosophy from Binghamton University and both a Master of Arts and doctorate degree in American Literature from the Ohio State University. He successfully completed the Executive Leadership Academy of the Council of Independent Colleges and the Felician Leadership Institute this past year.

He follows in the footsteps of true Felician leaders as Villa Maria College was founded in 1960 by Mother Mary Annette Guzowski and the Felician Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Province. Through extensions of charters, National and State Accreditations and significant program expansions offering real world experiences, Villa Maria College at almost sixty years of service remains a vital center of educational energy as it embraces the academic, social and careers goals of its students.

Madam Speaker, I take this time to congratulate Dr. Matthew Giordano on his installation as President of Villa Maria College. This new era in the college's history will begin with a true celebration witnessed by his wife, Jennifer Desiderio, their three daughters and the extended Villa Maria Community. We extend our best wishes for continued success as he leads this unique institution of higher education into the future.

**HONORING JAMES AND DELIA  
NETTO'S 60TH BIRTHDAYS AND  
40TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 12, 2019*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mr. and Mrs. James and Delia Netto on the special occasion of their 60th birthdays and 40th wedding anniversary. They are wonderful members of the community and have been an inspiration for all married couples.

James and Delia Netto were born in Hanford, California—he on May 17 and she on December 30—in 1959. They come from proud Portuguese families originating from the Azores Islands. James and Delia met in church and quickly realized they had found the loves of their life. They were married on September 1, 1979 at Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Laton, California. The Nettos are the proud parents of two daughters, Danae Koprivetz and Diandra Vantrease.

Together, James and Delia founded Double N Dairy and Netto Trucking. James and his brother, Frank, then started Netto Agriculture, Inc., where Delia served as Chief Financial Officer. James now owns Penny Newman Grain Company, serving as Vice President of Sales and Production.

James and Delia are known for their service and generosity in the Central Valley of California. They were awarded the St. John Bosco Friends of the Youth Award in 2011 for their contributions to St. Rose-McCarthy Catholic School in Hanford, California. Additionally, James serves on the St. Vincent de Paul Center Board of Directors in Hanford and the couple support the Poverello House, Candle Light Guild, Saint Agnes Holy Cross Center, Make-A-Wish Foundation, among other organizations.

The Netto's favorite pastime is spending time with their family and friends, including their daughters, sons-in-law Jeff and Troy and beloved grandchildren Emma, James and Sloane. They also enjoy traveling.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in celebrating my friends James and Delia Netto as they celebrate their 60th birthdays and 40th wedding anniversary. I join their family and friends in celebrating this milestone occasion.

**TRIBUTE TO PARKER OVERTON**

**HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 12, 2019*

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Parker Overton of Grimesland, North Carolina. Mr. Overton was recently presented The Order of the Long Leaf Pine on October 22nd. The Order of the Long Leaf Pine is the highest award for state service granted by the Governor. It is presented to persons for exemplary service to the state of North Carolina and its communities that is above and beyond the call of duty and which has made a significant impact and strengthened North Carolina.

Mr. Overton, who grew up on Greenville, is the founder of Overton's, the world's largest